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25X1A

Country: Poland/France

C 28380

Subject: French CP Recruitment Effects Among the Polish Emigration/Attitudes of Polish Activists

Place Acquired: [REDACTED] 25X1A

Date Acquired: [REDACTED] 25X1A

Date of Info: To August 53

25X1X

Source: [REDACTED]

1. "The following information dates through early August 1953.
2. "French CP activists are making considerable though discreet efforts to recruit to their ranks local Polish emigrants who have obtained French citizenship papers.
3. "Particular efforts are being made in the district of Pas de Calais, where large communities of Poles employed in factories and in the mining industry have been settled for years. The action here is directed by Marcel Barrois, secretary of the French CP in Pas de Calais. He is helped by Henri Krasucki, a naturalized Pole who is a member of the Administrative Commission of the Confederation Generale de Travail (CGT).
4. "Barrois already has a substantial group of close collaborators of Polish origin who are now naturalized French citizens. He supported some of them as CP candidates in the last municipal elections, including:

Welf Siechanowski (Valenciennes)  
Mieczyslaw Gielkowski (Darlin)  
Michal Bijak (Lens)  
Stanislaw Podjaski (Sallaumines)

5. "Barrois' recruit ent is subtle. He knows that many persons might reject indignantly an outright proposal to join the CP. He acts therefore through certain French organizations which are either controlled by the CP or deeply penetrated by it. The appeal to the naturalized Poles is the purported interest of these organizations in the protection of the rights and equal privileges of new French citizens. It is inevitable that some naturalized citizens feel they are being discriminated against, to the advantage of native-born Frenchmen. Accordingly, many Communist front organizations have special sections to promote the rights of naturalized citizens. Such sections exist, for example, in the:

- Parti Socialiste Unitaire, 10 rue des Augustins, Antony, Seine.
- Naturalized section directed by Elic Floncourt.
- Secours Populaire Francais, 4 Cite Monthiers, Paris.
- Naturalized section directed by Raymond Bloch.

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-Confederation Nationale des Associations Familiales Ouvrieres,  
54 Boulevard Garibaldi, Paris.  
Naturalized section headed by Andre Iaprade, secretary of the  
organization in Paris.

Other organizations which advertise their interest in the status of naturalized French citizens:

-Union Nationale des Vieux Travailleurs  
-Societe Civile Immobiliere  
-Union des Camps et Delais de la Jeunesse  
-Union des Republicains Progressistes  
-Confederation Generale Unifiee de l'Artisanat  
-Travail et Culture

6. "The Polish Communist leaders in France have allegedly observed a slow but steady decrease in the ranks of declared sympathizers of Communism, or of Communist-controlled organizations, among the Polish emigration. Such observations were reported by provincial CP leaders at the end of 1952, to Lt.Col. Stefan Albinski, who was sent to France from Warsaw to investigate the situation among the Poles in France. The Polish emigration is of value to Communist purposes because of its numbers and its potential for subversive activities. Diplomatic representatives of the Polish Government in France deny this decrease in Communist sympathizers. (The diplomats include Przemyslaw Cgrodzinski, Charge d'Affaires, who is a close relative of Zdzislaw Cgrodzinski, the officer of s/s Pilica who jumped ship in London in early July 1953.) But Communist activists assert that the Polish diplomats don't want to become persona non grata in France and steer clear of contacts with active Communists of Polish origin. Polish Communists also accuse the French CP of taking advantage of the Poles and making them do the dirty work.
7. "Such opinions are being voiced by Stanislaw Rubiak, who is a trusted CP agent in Pas de Calais. He is head of the so-called independent UB observation post for the Pas de Calais district, which is subordinate to the UB unit in Paris. He is a member of the CGT and completed some special secret courses in Paris in 1946 which trained him for his present job. He lives in Noeux-les-Mines.
8. "It is evident that the slow dwindling in numbers of Polish Communist sympathizers is caused mainly by their confusion in face of the unscrupulous tactics of the CP since World War II. But it can hardly be expected that the persons responsible for Communist propaganda, either in the Polish Embassy or the provincial network, will admit this. They cite the reprisals of the French authorities. Thus representatives of the Polish official information agencies in Paris have for some time hinted that the new Soviet ambassador to France, Vinogradov, is coming to the rescue of the Polish Communists in the country. Such propagandists as Idzi Angelot of BIP (Biuro Informacji Prasowej) and Bogdan Roszkowicz of PAP (Polska Agencja Prasowa) assert that the ambassador has received instructions to convey to the French authorities Moscow's displeasure at the discrimination against the 'genuinely democratic Poles' in France. Such rumors, though most unlikely, may have some reassuring influence on the more naive Polish comrades in France."

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